[Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker.]

required for all the hospitals in the State including private dispensaries for submission to the Office of the Drugs Controller of the Government of India. Government, therefore, now propose to appoint one clerk on Rs. 30-45 and one typist on Rs. 45-75. In the circumstances, I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the grant.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 380 under Demand XXV—Medical was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXVI—AYURVEDA—Rs. 110.

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker: Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 110 under Demand XXVI—Ayurveda for the appointment of a compounder in the Sachivottama Shastiabdapurthi Memorial Ayurveda Hospital, Neyyattinkara.

This is a newly opened hospital and though the Director wanted two compounders to be appointed from the very beginning, Government wanted to know how far there would be work for two compounders. Recently, the Director inspected the hospital and reported to Government that the daily attendance in the hospital was about 400, and that it was practically impossible for a single compounder to handle 400 cases a day. He therefore felt that one more compounder was essential for work in the hospital. I request that the House may be pleased to grant this small sum.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 110 under Demand XXVI—Ayurveda, was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXVII—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION—Rs. 18,945.

Rajyasevaniratha Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai (*Director of Public Health*): Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 18,945 under Demand XXVII—Public Health and Sanitation. Out of this a sum of Rs. 12,000 is required for plague work during 1120 at Alleppey, Quilon and Marayur. A new station was started at Marayur and a sum of Rs. 4,000 is required for continuing the observation station there.

It was thought necessary to institute a public health survey throughout the State, and to conduct this survey, a small staff was necessary. The amount is required for paying salary and also to meet the contingent expenses.

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The third item of expenditure is for running the milk canteens. A sum of Rs.5,000 has already been provided in the budget for Milk canteens. It was expected that the original supply of milk would last only for six months, but now the Government have been able to get fresh supply for another six months. So, this additional amount of Rs. 3,300 is required. I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the amount.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma: May I know the number of cases of plague that occurred in 1119 and 1120 in the State?

Rajyasevaniratha Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: There were two cases in 1119 and only one case was reported in 1120.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma: Is it necessary to continue the staff this year also on this large amount?

Rajyasevaniratha Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: Yes, Sir, because preventive measures have to be taken vigorously. Only then the situation can be got under control.

President: Honourable members will remember that in the case of such things as plague control, prompt measures will have to be taken. In and around the State, there is plague prevailing and in the Cumbum Valley and in Coimbatore, there is always endemic plague. Unless we are careful and take prompt measures, plague might invade us. So far, we have been kept fairly free but no relaxation of the proposed measures would be possible.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 18,945 under Demand XXVII—Public Health and Sanitation—was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXX—STATIONERY AND PRINTING—Rs. 288.

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker: Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 288 under Demand XXX—Stationery and Printing.

A sum of Rs. 160 is required for the appointment of a temporary clerk in the Government Press and a sum of Rs. 128 is required for the appointment of an additional turner in the Government Press.

In view to the large volume of paper and binding materials expended in the Government Press, the Controller brought to the notice of Government the desirability of calling for weekly statements from the Press for scrutiny and check in the Central Printing Office. The Superintendent of the Government Press was accordingly asked to prepare the weekly statement for submission to the

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